

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

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**MARCH PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED ON PROJECT APPLICATIONS FOR
TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT AND CONGESTION MITIGATION FUNDING**

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation announces two transportation advisory committees will hold March public hearings in Concord to review applications received for Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) programs and projects. Applications for these funds have been made by citizens, groups, municipalities, and state agencies.

Transportation Enhancement projects can include: facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians, safety and educational activities for bicyclists and pedestrians, acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities), landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation, rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals), preservation of abandoned railroad corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails), control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, environmental mitigation to address and reduce water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity, and establishing transportation museums.

The Transportation Enhancement public hearing will be held Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at the NH Department of Transportation, John O. Morton Building, Room 200, 7 Hazen Drive in Concord from 1:30 - 9:00 PM. Following the hearing, the New Hampshire Transportation Enhancement Advisory Committee will meet on March 17, 2004 to make its final program and project selections.

CMAQ projects can include: *Transit* - Construction, equipment or operating expenses for new and improved services for a maximum of three years, and parking for transit services, etc. *Other Shared-Ride* - Vanpool and carpool programs, and parking for shared-ride services, etc. *Highway/Road* - Traffic management and control services, signalization projects, intersection improvements, and construction or dedication of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, etc. *Demand Management* - Employer trip reduction programs, transportation management plans, flexible work schedule programs, vehicle restriction programs, etc. *Pedestrian/Bicycle* - Sidewalks, trails, storage facilities, promotional activities, etc. Also included are: Inspection/Maintenance Programs and Traffic Control Measures not covered by the above categories, extreme low-temperature cold start programs, Magnetic Levitation Transportation Technology Deployment program projects, and education and outreach to increase public knowledge of transportation related emissions and opportunities to reduce them.

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality public hearing will be held Monday, March 8, 2004 at the NH Department of Transportation, John O. Morton Building, Room 200, 7 Hazen Drive in Concord from 2:00 - 9:30 PM. Following the hearing, the New Hampshire CMAQ Advisory Committee will meet on Monday, March 22, 2004 to make its final program and project selections.